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PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. AMAT/3083.P6/PDC/PDC/OR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TM
The Application of:
Hunter et al.

Serial No.: 09/684,856

Confirmation No.: 2780

Filed: October 6, 2000

For: Methods for Continuous
Embedded Process Monitoring
and Optical Inspection of
Substrates Using Specular
Signature Analysis

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 2877

Examiner: Zandra V. Smith

<p style="margin: 0;">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p style="margin: 0;">37 CFR 1.8</p>	
<p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on November 6, 2003 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</p>	
<u>Nov. 6, 2003</u>	<u>Anil Imanishi</u>
Date	Signature

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 8, 2003

In response to the Office Action dated August 8, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 10, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/ AMAT/3083.P6/AOP, \$516.00 for excess claim fees, and any additional amount for other fees, including extension of time fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.